

Parish of St John the Baptist & St Kentigern

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Church of St John the Baptist
 37 St Ninian's Road
 Edinburgh, EH12 8AL

Church of St Kentigern
 26 Parkgrove Avenue
 Edinburgh, EH4 7QR

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year - C
2nd March 2025

A warm welcome to Mass today!

Parish Offertory donations can now be made online. Scan the QR code to go to the parish online giving page. Please Gift Aid if you can. Thank you so much! About to make/change a Will? Have you considered leaving a legacy to your parish?




Sat. 1 March (Vigil)	6.00pm	St John the Baptist	Bob Birrell RIP
Sunday 2 March	9.30am	St Kentigern	Ian MacGillivray RIP
	11.30am	St John the Baptist	People of God
Mon. 3 March – Feria	6.30pm – Farewell Mass of Frs. Jamie and Paul followed by agape – St Kentigern		
Tue. 4 March – Feria	9.30am	St Kentigern	Maureen Reynolds RIP
Wed. 5 March – Ash Wednesday	10.00am 7.00pm	St John the Baptist St Kentigern	For Pope Francis (GE) Donor's Private Intention
Thu. 6 March – Lent	9.30am	St Kentigern	Anna Cooke RIP
Fri. 7 March – Lent	9.30am	St John the Baptist	Patrick Fitzgerald RIP
Sat. 8 March – Memorial of the Bl Vergin Mary	9.30am	St Kentigern	Vincent Robinson RIP
<i>Confessions – on request at any time, as well as:</i>	10.00am-10.15am – Saturdays		St Kentigern's
	5.15pm-5.45pm – Saturdays		St John the Baptist

“The Heart’s True Treasure”: My dear People of God, in today’s Gospel passage – Lk 6:39-45 – Jesus offers us wisdom about leadership, integrity, and the power of the heart. He begins with a striking image: *“Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit?”* This reminds us that as disciples, we must first allow Christ to open our own eyes before we can guide others. If we are spiritually blind—trapped in sin, pride, or ignorance—how can we lead our families, communities, or fellow believers in faith?

Jesus then speaks about removing the “log” from our own eye before pointing out the “speck” in our brother’s. This is not a call to ignore sin, but rather an invitation to self-examination. Before we correct others, we must humbly recognize our own faults and seek God’s mercy. True Christian leadership flows not from superiority, but from a heart transformed by grace.

Finally, Jesus teaches that *“A good tree does not bear rotten fruit... A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good.”* Here, He challenges us to look at the fruits of our lives. Are our words and actions reflecting God’s love? Do we nurture our hearts with prayer, Scripture, and the Eucharist so that we can bear good fruit for others?

This passage calls our parish to be a community of light and integrity. Let us seek Christ’s healing for our own hearts, so that we can have clarity and distinctiveness, thus, be true guides to others. May our words and deeds reveal the goodness of God, bearing fruit that lasts. Amen

Fr. Binu Palakapally IC 

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The sick and the housebound of the parish: that the Lord will grant them healing, comfort and strength.
- All those who died recently, especially Janis McCreddie and Richard Hislop, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those who have no-one else to pray for them.

PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS:



Lord, we lift up our Pope Francis to You, asking for your healing touch upon his body and spirit. Grant him strength, comfort, and restoration, as he continues to serve Your Church with faith and love. May Your peace surround him, and Your grace guide his recovery. We trust in Your mercy and ask that You bless him with health and vitality, so he may continue to lead us in Your truth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!

PARISH REGISTRATION FORMS

The PPC extends a warm thank you to all who returned their forms, especially to all those who offered to help. We are still in the process of analysing the results and will contact people as soon as possible to take them up on their offers. Those who have not handed in the forms, please do so asap and those who still want to take the forms are fill, they are available at the back of the Churches.

COFFEE & CONNECT: in St Kentigern's Hall this weekend after Mass. All welcome for some games, chat and snacks. Also, the Blood Bike's Charity visit to receive their cheque.

FAREWELL TO FR. JAMIE AND PAUL: We will have a Thanksgiving Mass at 6.30pm on Monday the 3rd of March at St Kentigern's Church, followed by a time of agape, all are most welcome to attend!

ST KENTIGERNS MONTHLY COMMUNITY LUNCH: Tuesday 4th March 12.30 pm – 2.00pm in the Parish Hall. Don't miss this month's Community Lunch. It's a great opportunity to meet and socialise over a light lunch of soup and sandwiches, cake and refreshments (and there is a free raffle too!). Suggested donation £3.00.

REMEMBERING SERVICE

An ecumenical service for those who have suffered the loss of a child, from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, Sunday 2nd March, 5:00pm at St John the Baptist RC Church.

RETURN: A day to help you get back to Confession. If you have not been to confession for a while, want to learn more and go to confession, come to this event. It takes place from 10am-4pm on Saturday 8 March at – the Gillis Centre, [100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB](#). Register on Eventbrite at [bit.ly/return2025](#)

LENT STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join Catholics from across Scotland online each Monday evening in Lent for the national Stations of the Cross. Begins at 7:45pm on Monday 10 March and includes a reflection from Bishop Hugh Gilbert of Aberdeen Diocese. The event is to pray for the unborn, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at [bit.ly/Stations25](#)

HEALING AFTER ABORTION: A Rachel's Vineyard retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion will be held north of Glasgow on Friday, 21 to Sunday 23 March. This confidential, supportive retreat is powerful for anyone who has been affected by their own or someone else's abortion experience. For more information, please call/text Sr Andrea on 07816 942824 or email at srandrea@rachelsvineyard.org.uk For more details, see www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk

SCIAF WEE BOX APPEAL: With the beginning of Lent this coming week, we would like to encourage you all to take home a Wee Box in order to support the work of SCIAF this Lent. In this Jubilee Year of Hope, SCIAF are asking us to support them so that they can bring Hope to those struggling to find it! By supporting the WEE BOX, you're helping bring real solutions and build peace in active conflict zones in Colombia, and around the world.

GRIEF TO GRACE: RETREAT FOR ABUSE SURVIVORS – 29 APRIL TO 4 MAY

Grief to Grace is a specialised five-day programme of spiritual and psychological healing for anyone who has suffered from sexual, physical, or emotional abuse or neglect in childhood, adolescence or adulthood, including those abused by a religious/member of the clergy. If you are interested in attending this confidential healing retreat in Perth, please contact: margaret.clarke@griegtogracesuk.org

RAISE IN FAITH, LIVE IN HOPE: The Archdiocese invites high school pupils to 'Rise in Faith, Live in Hope' at St Francis Xavier's Church, 11am-3pm on Saturday 15 March. The event will provide encouragement and inspiration to help our young people grow in their faith amidst the challenges they face. Includes Mass with Archbishop Cushley. Register at [bit.ly/archyouth](#) or for large groups please email youth.office@staned.org.uk

ASSISTED PILGRIMS FOR LOURDES: Do you know someone who is ill or infirm and would enjoy the opportunity to experience a life-changing trip to Lourdes? The Archdiocese is seeking *Assisted Pilgrims* to join them on the pilgrimage 11-18 July. Please contact Bernadette on 0131 441 1939 or visit www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes24

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First reading **Sirach 27:4-7**
'Do not praise a man before you hear him reason.'

When a sieve is shaken, the refuse appears; so a person's filth in his thoughts. The kiln tests the potter's vessels; likewise the test of a person is in his reasoning. The fruit discloses the cultivation of a tree; so the expression of a thought discloses the cultivation of a person's mind.

Do not praise a man before you hear him reason, for this is the test of people.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 92(91):2-3. 13-14. 15-16. R cf. 2a

It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your loving mercy in the morning,
and your truth in the watches of the night.

It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord.

The just one will flourish like the palm tree,
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.
Planted in the house of the Lord,
they will flourish in the courts of our God.

It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord.

Still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is upright.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord

Second reading **1 Corinthians 15:54-58**
'He gives us the victory through Jesus Christ.'

Brothers and Sisters: When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying

that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory.' 'O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?'

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.

Gospel Acclamation **Philippians 2:15d, 16a**
Alleluia, alleluia.

Shine as lights in the world,
holding fast to the word of life.
Alleluia.

Gospel **Luke 6:39-45**

'Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.'

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable: 'Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye", when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own

eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

'For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks